

REMARKS

In response to the restriction requirement set forth in the Official Action, applicants hereby elect the subject matter of Group I which currently includes claims 1-9. This election is made without traverse, but applicants reserve the right to request rejoinder pursuant to the provisions of MPEP §804.21 or to pursue the non-elected subject matter in a divisional application.

The instant response also makes various editorial revisions throughout the claims in order to place them into better form without altering the scope thereof. For instance, the internal periods within several of the claims have been removed and semi-colons inserted, typographical errors have been corrected and duplicative terms "the" and "wherein" have been removed. Favorable consideration of the claims of record is respectfully requested.

As a final matter, applicants note that Information Disclosure Statements were filed on June 10 and November 30, 2004, and applicants request acknowledgement of this information in the next Official Action along with acknowledgement of the priority claim and receipt of the certified copy of the priority document.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning the subject application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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